

10/538776

JC06 Rec'd PCT/PTO, 10 JUN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Attorney Docket No.: **ASAIN0164**
Tomonobu HATA et al.) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
Serial No.: Unassigned) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: June 10, 2005) Examiner: Unassigned
For: GRADIENT STRUCTURE MATERIAL)
AND FUNCTIONAL ELEMENT)
USING THE SAME) Date: June 10, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):

- within three months of the filing date of this application (not a C.P.A.);
- within three months of the date of entry of the National Stage;
- before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

A copy of each non-U.S. document identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B is attached, however, in accordance with Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /G.H./

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Attorney Dkt. No. ASAIN0164
Serial No. Unknown

Attached is a copy of the Search Report issued in the corresponding International application. Since all of the documents cited herein were cited in said Search Report, it is believed that the relevancy of each document cited is clear from the Search Report. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

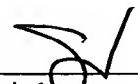
It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that the Examiner initial a copy of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, and return them to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No.

50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPPL, PC



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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known 107538776

Application Number	10/936,770
Filing Date	June 10, 2005
First Named Inventor	Tomonobu HATA et al.
Art Unit	Unknown 1794
Examiner Name	W. J. Williams, Jr.

Attorney Docket Number ASAIN0164

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B	EP 1 083 610 A1	03-14-2001	Sumitomo Spec.		
	C	JP 2000-299504 A	10-24-2000	Sharp Corp.		✓
	D	JP 10-229224	08-25-1998	Central Res.		✓
	E	JP 2000-101151	04-07-2000	Sanyo Electric		✓
	F	JP 10-209508	08-07-1998	Toshiba Corp.		✓
	G	JP 04-101471	04-02-1992	Komatsu Elec.		✓

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

Translation is attached.
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/538776
		Filing Date	June 10, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Tomonobu HATA et al.
		Art Unit	Unknown 1794
		Examiner Name	Unknown Higgins, Gerard
		Attorney Docket Number	ASAIN0164
Sheet	2	of	3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
H	EP 0 967 293 A2		12-29-1999	K. Ishida		
I	JP 11-340141		12-10-1999	Sumitomo Metal		✓
J	JP 2001-007409		01-12-2001	Daikin Ind.		✓

Examiner Signature	/Gerard Higgins/	Date Considered	03/20/2008
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<p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	107538776
		Filing Date	June 10, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Tomonobu HATA et al.
		Art Unit	Unknown 1794
		Examiner Name	Unknown Higgins, Gerard
Sheet 3	of 3	Attorney Docket Number	ASAIN0164

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature	/Gerard Higgins/	Date Considered	03/20/2008
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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
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